

as long as the inner toe, and has a large pad at its base; the outer toe is shortest; the claws are much hooked.

Contents of stomach were a few grains of *Holcus spicatus* and the exuviae of insects.

Plumage is soft and loose.

Colours: the whole top of the head is covered with a cap of black. Bill lead-colour at base and black at the point. The chin, the breast, and all underneath white; the body all above of a leaden colour. Quills and tail of a light black, edged with light on both webs; the outer web of the outer tail-feather is white, as well as the tips of the first five on each side. Feet and legs black.

I propose for this species the name of *Artamus cucullatus*.—*Proc. Zool. Soc.* June 10, 1851.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR AUG. 1853.

Chiswick.—August 1. Uniformly overcast: very fine: rain at night. 2. Very fine. 3. Uniform haze: clear. 4—8. Very fine. 9. Slight haze: very fine: clear. 10. Very fine. 11. Slight fog. 12. Cloudy and fine. 13. Overcast. 14. Cloudy. 15. Cloudy and fine. 16. Uniformly overcast: rain. 17. Very fine. 18. Slight fog: very fine: clear. 19. Foggy: very fine: slight rain. 20. Slight rain: cloudy and fine. 21. Very fine. 22. Fine: cloudy: heavy rain at night. 23. Rain: cloudy: clear. 24. Dense fog: dusky haze: fine. 25. Overcast: slight showers: hoisterous, with rain at night. 26. Very boisterous throughout. In this and the preceding day a large quantity of air from the south must have moved over the kingdom. 27. Cloudy and rather boisterous. 28. Clear and very fine. 29. Overcast: very fine. 30, 31. Very fine.

Mean temperature of the month	59°·69
Mean temperature of Aug. 1852	63·67
Mean temperature of Aug. for the last twenty-seven years .	62·12
Average amount of rain in Aug.	2·35 inches.

Boston.—Aug. 1. Cloudy: rain A.M. and P.M. 2. Fine. 3. Cloudy. 4. Fine. 5—8. Cloudy. 9—11. Fine. 12—15. Cloudy. 16. Cloudy: rain A.M. 17. Cloudy: rain P.M. 18. Fine. 19. Cloudy. 20. Cloudy: rain A.M. 21, 22. Fine. 23. Cloudy: rain A.M. 24. Fine: rain P.M. 25. Cloudy: rain A.M. 26. Rain A.M. and P.M. 27. Cloudy: rain A.M. 28, 29. Cloudy. 30, 31. Fine.

Sandwich Manse, Orkney.—Aug. 1. Drizzle A.M.: rain, fair P.M. 2. Cloudy A.M.: damp P.M. 3. Showers A.M.: fair P.M. 4. Cloudy A.M.: showers P.M. 5. Cloudy A.M.: drizzle P.M. 6. Drizzle A.M. and P.M. 7, 8. Cloudy A.M. and P.M. 9. Bright A.M.: clear P.M. 10. Clear A.M.: clear, fine P.M. 11. Bright A.M.: cloudy P.M. 12. Cloudy A.M.: fine P.M. 13, 14. Cloudy A.M. and P.M. 15. Damp A.M.: cloudy P.M. 16. Cloudy A.M.: clear, fine P.M. 17. Showers A.M.: clear, fine P.M. 18. Clear A.M.: clear, fine P.M. 19. Damp A.M.: thunder and lightning, showers P.M. 20. Bright A.M.: thunder and lightning, showers P.M. 21. Bright A.M.: clear P.M. 22. Bright A.M.: showers P.M. 23. Cloudy A.M.: showers P.M. 24. Bright A.M.: clear, aurora P.M. 25. Clear, fine A.M.: drizzle P.M. 26. Rain A.M.: cloudy P.M. 27. Rain A.M.: damp P.M. 28. Damp A.M.: drizzle P.M. 29. Damp A.M.: cloudy P.M. 30. Cloudy A.M. and P.M. 31. Bright A.M.: drizzle P.M.

Mean temperature of Aug. for twenty-six previous years	55°·08
Mean temperature of this month	55·98
Mean temperature of Aug. 1852	60·64
Average quantity of rain in Aug. for seven previous years ...	2·70 inches.

On the 24th, from 9½ till 10 P.M., a comet was seen with a long bright tail, about 5° above the horizon in the N.W. The nucleus like a star of the first magnitude.